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450101-02950

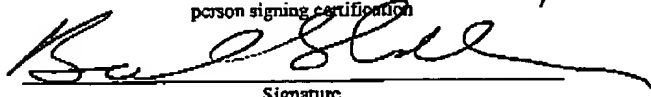
MAY 31 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : FUKUDA, Kei *et al.* Notice of Allowance
Appl. No. : 09/937,463 Dated: 05/02/2006
Filed : September 24, 2001 Confirmation No. 9482
Title : **INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND PROCESSING
METHOD, AND PROGRAM STORAGE**
Art Unit : 2178
Examiner : HUYNH, Cong Lac T.

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10151**FACSIMILE**

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May 31, 2006

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

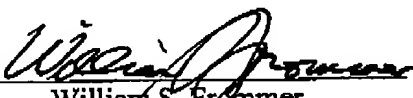
This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed May 2, 2006. To the extent the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be

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interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By 
William S. Frommer
Reg. No. 25,506
(212) 588-0800